



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts
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Selectmen Minutes 11-20-2000

Monday, November 20, 2000

7:15 p.m.

Present: Mr. Greeley - Chair, Mr. Lyons - Vice Chair (8:15 p.m.), Mrs. Dias, Mr. Hurd, Mrs. Mahon

Also Present: Mr. Farrington, Mr. Maher, Ms. Cove

FOR APPROVAL

Minutes of Meeting: November 6, 2000

Mrs. Mahon moved approval. (4-0) SO VOTED

Renewal – Drain Layer License

C.J. Doherty, 173 Woburn St., Medford

Mrs. Mahon moved approval. (4-0) SO VOTED

APPOINTMENTS

New Election Workers

Linda Ferrante, 38 Waldo Rd., Pct. 3, U

John A. Ferrante, Jr., 38 Waldo Rd., Pct. 3, U

Patricia A. Higgins, 23H Drake Rd., Pct. 13, D

Christina Keenan, 7 Kipling Rd., Pct. 18, U

Sarah A. Vanderhill, 50 High Haith Rd., Pct. 10, D

Elizabeth A. Pinette, 15 Yale Rd., Pct. 9, U

Catherine M. Gannon, 7 Hawthorne Ave., Pct. 12, D

Mr. Hurd moved approval. (4-0) SO VOTED

Boston Gas Company Petition

To install and maintain approximately 150', more or less of 4" gas main in Purcell Rd. from the existing 4" gas main in Everett St. @ Purcell Rd., Southerly to House #15

(all abutters notified). Mr. Harold Cooper was present on behalf of Boston Gas. The Board urged Mr. Cooper to be in contact with the police as the work is nearby and elementary school

Mrs. Mahon moved approval. (4-0) SO VOTED

Status Report on School Rebuild Project

John Cole, Permanent Town Building Committee

Mr. Cole updated the Board on the school renovation/rebuild projects. Mr. Cole indicated that construction costs in the Boston area are skyrocketing and that this may cause overruns in project costs. He also explained that the Hardy School has more asbestos and structural problems than was originally estimated.

The Chairman stated the need to call the Budget and Revenue Task Force to a meeting.

Kathleen Donovan, Superintendent of Schools was present and explained her understanding of the School Building Assistance Bureau (SBAB) guidelines.

Mr. Hurd expressed his concern that there did not appear to be funding slated for the Hardy School Playground.

Request for 2 Handicap Parking Spaces

St. Agnes Church

Mr. Hurd moved to amend the Traffic Rules and Orders to reflect one additional handicapped space on Medford Street and St. Agnes Church. (4-0) SO VOTED

7:30 p.m.

Setting of Tax Rate

Robert Greeley, Director, Assessor's Office and the members of the Board of Assessors were present: Jim Doherty, Maurice O'Connell and Chairman Kevin Feeley.

MWRA Debt Shift

The Assessors gave an extensive presentation on the recent tax assessments that included an explanation of how the MWRA debt shift impacts homeowners. The Assessor's recommended the Selectmen adopt a residential factor of "1" as opposed to adopting a tiered structure. The Chairman indicated that this hearing would remain open until the Board's next meeting on Monday, December 4, 2000 at 7:15 p.m.

Mr. Lyons arrived at the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

Mr. Hurd moved receipt of the report. SO VOTED

LICENSES & PERMITS

Common Victualler License

High Teas, Ltd., d/b/a Tea Tray in the Sky, Cynthia Gold, President, 689 Mass. Ave.

Ms. Gold was present.

Mrs. Mahon moved approval subject to all conditions as set forth. SO VOTED

Food Vendor License

Thrapsano Inc. d/b/a My Brother's Place, Michael Stratakis, Pres., 181 Broadway

Emmanuel Meimaris, 30 Church Street, Suite 310, Belmont was present to represent Mr. Stratakis.

Mrs. Mahon moved approval subject to all conditions as set forth. SO VOTED

Livery License

Thomas J. Whelan d/b/a Arlington Veterans Taxi, 62 Margaret St.

(original request received 1/5/99)

Livery License

Lida Armstrong, 12 Brattle Ct., (original request received 2/26/99)

Livery License

A & C Livery Inc., Joseph Quinn, 11 Pelham Terr. (original request received 6/1/00)

Town Counsel requested that these hearings be tabled to allow him more time to investigate the matter.

Mrs. Mahon moved to table the matter until December 4th. SO VOTED

Request for Stop Sign – Rhinecliff Rd./St. Paul's Church

Hans Sachdeva

Mr. Hurd moved to amend the traffic rules and orders to include

Article VII, Section 12, Schedule IV

Location Traffic Direction

Hillside Avenue For Southwest Bound Traffic at Rhinecliff Street

SO VOTED

Report on concerns of Bow Street Residents, from 9/11/00 & 10/16/00 meetings

Report of Fred Ryan, Director of Police Services

Joy Spadafora of 5 Blossom Street, Rebecca Whittemore and Don Mills of 33 Bow Street were present on behalf of the neighborhood. They requested an update on the progress of repair to a home at 60 Bow Street and the replacement of their street sign at the intersection of Downing Square. They also expressed continued concern about traffic speeding and volume issues. They indicated that the police have been very helpful thus far. Mr. Hurd moved to refer these matters to the Town Manager, that he implement as many recommendations from the Police Chief and neighbors as possible and report back to the Board with the changes. SO VOTED

8:30 p.m.

CITIZENS OPEN FORUM

Any matter presented for consideration of the Board shall neither be acted upon, nor a decision made the night of the presentation in accordance with the policy under which the Open Forum was established.

Steve Andrews of 16 Wadsworth Street, representing the Chamber of Commerce was present to request permission to erect a crèche on the lawn of the Jefferson Cutter House for the holiday season. Mr. Hurd moved approval. SO VOTED

TRAFFIC RULES & ORDERS/OTHER BUSINESS

Request for Overnight On-Street Parking of 2 Cars

78 Warren St., Margaret Callahan

Mr. Hurd moved to table the matter until the neighbor's property is sold. SO VOTED

For Approval: Payment of Bills

Cyrus E. Dallin Art Museum Board of Trustees

Mrs. Dias moved approval. SO VOTED

For Approval: January – April 2001 Meeting Schedule

Mr. Lyons moved to table the matter so that an election date could be discussed with the Town Clerk before approval. SO VOTED

RCN Franchise Fee

Mrs. Mahon moved to deposit the check for \$27,107.76 into the Educational Technology Fund.

SO VOTED

Mr. Lyons requested that the School Superintendent please submit a plan for the use of the funds.

Correspondence Received

R.J. Jasmin Information about natural gas transmission lines Be Rec'd

Tennessee Gas
Pipeline

David Slatery Provident Properties at Arlington, L.L.C. Be Rec'd
MassDevelopment
75 Federal St.
Boston

Eleanor Mobilia Lawn damage Be Rec'd
12 Windmill Lane

Nancy Galkowski Health Insurance Rates 2001 Be Rec'd
Deputy Town Manager

Jack Johnson, Chair Comments re: bicycling, made in Oct. 30 Selectmen's Be Rec'd
Arlington Bicycle Meeting
Advisory Committee
Mr. Greeley commented that he was sorry if his statements were misconstrued as anti-cyclist.

Carney M. Terzian Review of Alewife Brook CSO Control Be Rec'd
45 Circle Rd.
Lexington
Mrs. Dias commented that when the CSO report is received that it should be reviewed by the Alewife Brook Advisory Committee.

John F. Maher Insurance Advisory Committee Be Rec'd
Town Counsel

Mr. Greeley exited the meeting at 8:58 p.m.

Mrs. Mahon moved receipt of correspondence. (4-0) SO VOTED

Mr. Greeley returned to the meeting at 9:04 p.m.

New Business

The Town Manager informed the Board that the police study has been received by the Town and that the Police Director and he would be making recommendations for implementation.

Mrs. Mahon commented on the Officer of the Year and the Policeman's Ball. She complimented the Pop Warner Cheerleader's for their first place win in competition. She also commented on correspondence from Clarissa Rowe distributed to the Board regarding ACEC.

Mr. Hurd indicated that he has been in contact with administrators in the City of Cambridge and will report back at the next meeting on any progress relative to modifying the Henderson Street Bridge. He also reported to the Board his attendance of the regional traffic forum held in Belmont.

Mr. Lyons invited his colleagues to join him and city officials from across the country to go on a tour of the Deer Island Facility in Boston Harbor. The tour is being held in conjunction with the National League of Cities conference in Boston. He reported that the Governor had appointed him to serve on the Affordable Housing Trust Fund for the State. He reported on RCN cable license meetings as well as the Minuteman Regional meeting he attended to discuss a possible compromise for funding the school.

Mrs. Dias asked that the Board please consider what a suitable memorial may be for Harry Barber who is quite unwell.

Mr. Greeley asked that the reforming of the Budget and Revenue task force be placed on the next agenda. He thanked all the veterans for their participation in Veteran's Day Ceremonies. He requested that the manager please see that a particular silver beech tree be trimmed in Mt. Pleasant Cemetery.

Executive Session

Mr. Hurd moved that the Board convene in executive session to discuss pending litigation and contract negotiations for non union personnel and that the Board will only reconvene for the purpose of adjournment.

On Mr. Hurd's motion:

Mr. Greeley: yes

Mr. Lyons: yes

Mrs. Dias: yes

Mr. Hurd: yes

Mrs. Mahon: yes

The Board reconvened in open session at 11:06 p.m.

Mrs. Mahon moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:06 p.m. SO VOTED

A true record.

Attest:

Caryn E. Cove
Board Administrator